

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9042

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USEC MISSION BRUSSELS 560

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LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETDR EEC COMECON PFOR UR

SUBJ: POSSIBLE CEMA-EEC TALKS ON COOPERATION:SWILL CEMA
REPRESENTATIVES COME TO BRUSSELS?

1. SUMMARY. FOLLOWING MAY 16 MEETING WITH CEMA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FADEEV, FRG AMBASSADOR MOSCOW HAS EXPRESSED OPINION THAT CEMA REPRESENTATIVES WILL EVENTULLY APPROACH EC COUNCIL IN BRUSSELS AND EXTEND RECOGNITION. HOWEVER, EMBASSY ADVISED CONFIDENTIALLY THAT EC EMBASSIES IN MOSCOW BELIEVE CEMA WILL BE RELUCTANT TO APPROACH BRUSSELS BECAUSE OF DESIRE AVOID EXTENSION OF DE FACTO CEMA (AND SOVIET) RECOGNITION OF EC. ON BANCANCE, WE BELIEVE CEMA SECRETARIAT MAY MAKE SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR COOPERATION TO EC EMBASSIES IN MOSCOW AND ALSO MAKE EARLY APPROACH TO COMMUNITY HEADQUARTERS. REASONS FOR DOING SO WOULD BE STRONG CEMA INTEREST IN GETTING DIALOGUE ON COOPERATION UNDERWAY AND ALSO IMMINENT BEGINNING OF EC COMMON COMMERICAL POLICY TOWARDS SOCIALIST COUNTRIES - JANUARY 1, 1975, END SUMMARY.

2. AT RECENT QUADRIPARTITE AMBASSADORS MEETING IN MOSCOW

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(US, UK, FRANCE, FRG), FRG AMBASSADOR SAHM REPORTED ON HIS MAY 16

VISIT TO CEMA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY FADEEV (REFTEL), AND GAVE RATHER OPTIMISTIC APPRAISAL OF POSSIBLE FUTURE EEC-CEMA COOPERATION, INDICATING HIS BELIEF THAT CEMA WOULD EVENTUALLY DEAL WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND RECOGNIZE IT.

3. OFFICERS FROM TWO DIFFERENT EC EMBASSIES HERE HAVE, HOWEVER, PROVIDED MORE RESTRAINED PROGNOSIS, THEY HAVE INDICATED THAT AT MEETING OF CHIEFS OF MISSION OF EC EMBASSIES WHICH TOOK PLACE A FEW HOURS AFTER SAHM-FADEEV MEETING, GENERAL AGREEMENT WAS REACHED THAT CEMA AUTHORITIES WOULD MAKE NO IMMEDIATE APPROACH TO EC HEADQUARTERS IN BRUSSELS, BECAUSE SUCH AN APPROACH MIGHT BE CONSTRUED AS DE FACTO RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY BY CEMA. FURTHERMORE, IN VIEW OF STRONG SOVIET PRESENCE IN CEMA, SUCH APPROACH MIGHT ALSO BE CONSTRUED AS SOVIET RECOGNITION OF COMMUNITY. PARTICIPANTS OF MEETING THEREFORE CONCLUDED THAT

APPROACHES BY CEMA WOULD BE MADE TO FRG OR OTHER EC EMBASSIES IN MOSCOW, PROBABLY IN FORM FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF JOINT WORKING GROUPS OF EXPERTS.

4. INFORMATION IN PARA THREE WAS PROVIDED ON STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS AND ON BASIS OF OUR KNOWLEDGE OF SOURCES WE EVALUATE IT AS PROBABLY CORRECT REPORTING. WE PRESUME THAT EC EMBASSIES HAVE REPORTED THIS ESTIMATE TO EC COUNCIL.

5. IT IS OUR OWN ESTIMATE THAT, GIVEN NUMEROUS INDICATIONS OF CEMA (AND SOVIET) EAGERNESS TO GET DIALOGUE ON COOPERATION MOVING, ODDS ARE FIFTY-FIFTY OR BETTER THAT FADEEV, OR POSSIBLY SMALL GROUP REPRESENTING HIM, WILL INDEED COME TO BRUSSELS, POSSIBLY DURING SAME PERIOD THAT SPECIFIC APPROACHES BEING MADE TO EC EMBASSIES HERE. ANOTHER INCENTIVE FOR EARLY APPROACH IS FACT THAT EC COUNCIL HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT COMMON COMMERCIAL POLICY ON TRADE OF EC COUNTRIES WITH EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES GOES INTO EFFECT JANUARY 1, 1975. THIS GIVES CEMA A RATHER LIMITED TIME FOR MANEUVERING - NAMELY ABOUT SIX AND ONE-HALF MONTHS. STOESEL

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